



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council

Professional Development Sub-Committee

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

A Professional Development Sub-Committee meeting, open to the public, was held on Friday, January 25, 2013, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the Navajo County White Mountain Complex, in the large conference room, located at 555 N. 9th Place, Show Low, Arizona 85901.

Welcome/Introductions/Call to Order

Chair Mannis welcomed the Committee members and thanked them for attending. The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:09 am.

Overview of Purpose of the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council Professional Development Sub-Committee

Chair Mannis told the Committee members that the purpose of the sub-committee is because there are unexpended funds in the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council funding plan that are ear-marked for the Lab School Strategy. The Council tasked the Professional Development Sub-Committee to come up with recommendations for a way to move forward to spend these funds. Chair Mannis said that he would like to get ideas and he would accept comments from the public if the comments specifically relate to the agenda item being discussed.

Discussion and Possible Adoption of Future Meeting Dates and Times, and Duration of Sub-Committee

Chair Mannis asked the Committee members to set dates and meeting times for the next couple of meetings. After discussion the dates were set for the next meeting on Thursday February 14, 2013 from 12pm – 2pm, and another meeting on Thursday February 21, 2013 from 12pm – 2pm. Ideally the Committee will have a recommendation for the Council for the March 13, 2013 Regular Meeting.

Presentation and Discussion of Information Gathered During Learning Lab Program Development

Chair Mannis asked Mrs. Benda-Dodd to re-cap some of the information regarding what she has learned in developing the program and some of the barriers. Mrs. Benda-Dodd relayed the following:

1. There is very limited infant care available in the community, and availability of infant care has been expressed as a need.
2. A top quality care center is expensive, and asked the committee to consider whether or not they want to see a full center as the implementation of the Learning Lab.
3. She has nearly completed the Program for Infant Toddler Care certification and has the knowledge to design a quality center, with help, but the costs are high. She said the cost for facility and improvements is just one factor.

Discussion was held regarding whether or not the Center could be subsidized through external sustainability funds. Regional Director Dobler-Allen told the committee that obtaining subsidies would only help with sustainability and did not address the question of identifying the administrative home for the Learning Lab Strategy. She said that entity would have to be able to provide not only the ongoing administration, but be financially able to provide 50% matching funds for any capital improvements and to carry the very large startup cost for a number of months before receiving any reimbursement funds from First Things First.

Chair Mannis suggested adjusting the strategy to become an office based consultant strategy rather than a center based strategy.

Discussion and Next Steps

Chair Mannis reviewed the Committee's discussion and summed up the challenges and suggestions provided at this meeting:

- The biggest challenge for this strategy as presented is finding an administrative home.
- Adjust the strategy to be mobile, using a consultant/trainer model vs Center based
- Increase the number of Quality First slots
- Develop a different strategy similar to community based professional development, looking at the Central Maricopa strategy to provide infant and toddler care professional development

Chair Mannis asked the Members to provide input for what the next meeting should include. He asked Regional Director Dobler-Allen to report on discussions with Summit Health Care if she has any information to report. He also asked Mrs. Benda-Dodd to provide the Committee with an overview of what a strategy might look like that would utilize her skills and PITC knowledge learned, including who the ideal partners would be, and what role they would play.

Adjourn

Chair Mannis asked for a motion to adjourn. Member Grugel moved to adjourn, Member Peck seconded, motion carried.

ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD

NAVAJO/APACHE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL Professional Development Sub-Committee

Kalman Mannis, Chair

Kate Dobler-Allen, Regional Director